

The 3rd meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on the fiscal year 1912 was held at the Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, D. C., on Thursday, November 2, 1911. The following members were present:

Mr. Nathan, the Secretary,

Mr. Olmsted,

Mr. French,

Mr. Miller,

Mr. Hastings, the Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 10:00 A. M. and began with a prayer by the Surgeon General.

1. The minutes of the preceding meeting, held July 27, 1911, were read and approved.

2. The Secretary stated that he had drafted a report of the work of the Commission for the preceding fiscal year to be submitted to the President.

3. A supplementary report of the work of the Commission for the preceding fiscal year to be submitted to the President was also presented. The report was read and approved. The report was then presented to the President and was approved.

4. The report of the Commission for the preceding fiscal year was then presented to the President and was approved.

5. The report of the Commission for the preceding fiscal year was then presented to the President and was approved.

6. The report of the Commission for the preceding fiscal year was then presented to the President and was approved.

7. The report of the Commission for the preceding fiscal year was then presented to the President and was approved.

8. The report of the Commission for the preceding fiscal year was then presented to the President and was approved.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE
ARTS HELD ON NOVEMBER 2,
1911. (3d meeting, fiscal
year, 1912.)

Copy sent to Mr. Burnham,...
Mr. Olmsted,....
Mr. Gilbert,....
Mr. French,....
Mr. Miller,....
Mr. Moore,....
Mr. Hastings,....

NOV 11 1911

The third meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1912 was held in its Office in the Lemon Building, Washington, D. C., on Thursday, November 2, 1911. The following members were present:

Mr. Burnham, the Chairman, -

Mr. Olmsted, -

Mr. French, -

Mr. Gilbert, -

Mr. Moore; also Colonel Spencer Cosby, the Secretary and Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 10:25 A. M., and immediately proceeded to the business before it.

1. The minutes of the preceding meeting, held July 31, 1911, were presented and approved.
2. The Secretary stated that he had drafted a report of the work of the Commission for the preceding fiscal year to be submitted to the President, and also a supplemental report in greater detail to be made by the Secretary to the Chairman of the Commission, and requested instructions in regard to them. He was directed to have a copy of these reports forwarded to each member of the Commission before the next meeting, when this matter would receive final attention.
3. The Grant Memorial Commission, on September 27, 1911, requested the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts in regard to the approval and acceptance of the bronze casting of the artillery group for the Grant monument to be erected in Washington, D. C., Mr. French, on behalf of the committee (Messrs. French, Hastings, and Gilbert) appointed by the Chair on September 29th to inspect the casting at the

The third meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year

1912 was held in its Office in the Mason Building, Washington, D. C., on

Thursday, November 2, 1911. The following members were present:

Mr. Barnard, the Chairman, -

Mr. Olinde, -

Mr. French, -

Mr. Gilchrist, -

Mr. Moore, also Colonel Spencer Cooley, the Secretary

and Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 10:25 A. M., and imme-

diately proceeded to the business before it.

1. The minutes of the preceding meeting, held July 31, 1911, were presented

and approved.

2. The Secretary stated that he had drafted a report of the work of the

Commission for the preceding fiscal year to be submitted to the President.

and also a supplemental report in greater detail to be made by the Secretary

to the Chairman of the Commission, and requested instructions in regard to them.

He was directed to have a copy of these reports forwarded to each member of the

Commission before the next meeting, when this latter would receive final attention.

3. The Grant Memorial Commission, on September 27, 1911, requested the advice

of the Commission of Fine Arts in regard to the approval and acceptance of the bronze

casting of the artillery group for the Grant monument to be erected in Washington.

D. C., Mr. French, on behalf of the committee (Messrs. French, Hastings, and

Gilchrist) appointed by the Grant on September 25th to inspect the casting of the

foundry, reported that it was satisfactory and had their hearty approval artistically. The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

4. The Executive Officer of the John Paul Jones Statue Commission submitted for the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts a layout for the planting proposed around the John Paul Jones monument, prepared by the architects. After consideration the matter was referred to Mr. Olmsted as a committee to confer with the architects, and report at the next meeting of the Commission.
5. The Secretary presented letters from the United States Commissioners for the erection of the Perry Memorial at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, requesting the advice and assistance of the Commission of Fine Arts in respect to the award of the competition, and also read extracts from the program of competition for the erection of the proposed Memorial and from a letter from Mr. Frank Miles Day, dated October 30, 1911, regarding the same subject. The Commission formally confirmed the action of the Chairman in notifying Mr. Day that it will be glad to accede to the request for advice and assistance in regard to the competition, and also directed the Secretary formally to notify the United States Commissioners to the same effect. It was decided to be desirable that as many of the members of the Commission as possible inspect the site of the proposed Memorial before the competition, and the Secretary was directed to make the necessary arrangements for a visit to Put-in-Bay on Sunday, November 12th, and to notify by telegram all members of the arrangements made. (See Exhibit A.)
6. The request of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia for the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to what should be the permissible height of buildings adjacent to the new Post Office building was next considered, and the report, prepared by the Chairman, was adopted. The Secretary was directed to

forward, reported that it was satisfactory and had their hearty approval artistically. The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

4. The Executive Officer of the John Paul Jones Statue Commission submitted for the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts a layout for the planing proposed around the John Paul Jones monument, prepared by the architect. After consideration the matter was referred to Mr. Olmsted as a committee in order with the architect, and report at the next meeting of the Commission.

5. The Secretary presented letters from the United States Commissioners for the erection of the Perry Memorial at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, requesting the advice and assistance of the Commission of Fine Arts in regard to the award of the competition, and also read extracts from the program of competition for the erection of the proposed Memorial and from a letter from Mr. Frank Miller Day, dated October 30, 1911, regarding the same subject. The Commission formally confirmed the action of the Chairman in notifying Mr. Day that it will be glad to answer to the request for advice and assistance in regard to the competition, and also directed the Secretary formally to notify the United States Commissioners to the same effect. It was decided to be desirable that as many of the members of the Commission as possible inspect the site of the proposed Memorial before the competition, and the Secretary was directed to make the necessary arrangements for a visit to Put-in-Bay on Sunday, November 12th, and to notify by telegram all members of the arrangements made. (See Exhibit A.)

6. The report of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia for the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to what should be the permissible height of buildings adjacent to the new Post Office building was next considered, and the report, prepared by the Chairman, was adopted. The Secretary was directed to

transmit this to the Commissioners. (See Exhibit B.)

7. The Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds submitted four alternative sketches for a Lodge House proposed to be erected in Potomac Park. The Commission approved the plan of sketch number 2 with the elevation of sketch number 3, and advised the selection of a site slightly to the west of that proposed. The suggestion was made that the building present a chipped stone surface, similar to that used for the shelters in South Park, Chicago.

8. The Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds also presented a detail plan for the improvement of the Decatur street terrace. Subsequently, after an inspection of the site, the plan was approved with the exception that a new position was advised for the two lampposts shown at the head of the steps. Suggestions were made in regard to bases for these lamps, and as to the character of the planting for the slopes on each side of the steps.

9. The Secretary presented a letter from Mrs. Henry M. Hoyt, Washington, D. C., in which she stated her desire to give, as a memorial to her husband, a bubble fountain which she wished placed either in Lafayette or Farragut Park. A photograph of an antique vase, which Mrs. Hoyt proposed to use for the purpose, was examined carefully. The Secretary was directed to inform Mrs. Hoyt that the Commission did not consider the design of the vase good, and therefore could not recommend its acceptance, but that the Commission will be very glad to approve a vase of appropriate design, the location of the fountain to depend upon the design selected. (See Exhibit C.)

See 88-44-52 P. B. & S.

10. A plan for the suggested extension of streetcar lines to serve Potomac Park, submitted by the Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds, was

transmit this to the Commissioners. (See Exhibit B.)

7. The Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds submitted two alternative sketches for a Lodge House proposed to be erected in Potomac Park.

The Commission approved the plan of sketch number 2 with the elevation of sketch number 3, and advised the selection of a site slightly to the west of that proposed. The suggestion was made that the building present a clipped stone surface, similar to that used for the shelters in South Park, Chicago.

8. The Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds also presented a detail plan for the improvement of the Potomac street terrace. Subsequently, after an inspection of the site, the plan was approved with the exception that a new position was advised for the two lampposts shown at the head of the steps. Suggestions were made in regard to bases for these lamps, and as to the character of the planting for the slopes on each side of the steps.

9. The Secretary presented a letter from Mrs. Henry M. Hoyt, Washington, D. C., in which she stated her desire to give, as a memorial to her husband, a public fountain which she wished placed either in Lafayette or Harvard Park. A photograph of an antique vase, which Mrs. Hoyt proposed to use for the purpose, was examined carefully. The Secretary was directed to inform Mrs. Hoyt that the Commission did not consider the design of the vase good, and therefore could not recommend its acceptance, but that the Commission will be very glad to approve a vase of appropriate design, the location of the fountain to depend upon the design selected. (See Exhibit C.)

10. A plan for the suggested extension of streetcar lines to serve Potomac Park, submitted by the Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds, was

approved. One of the objects of this plan is to make the proposed site for the Lincoln Memorial readily accessible to the public.

11. The Commission next considered a plan, submitted by the Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds, for planting parallel rows of trees in the monument grounds just east of 17th street, between the State, War, and Navy Department building and North B street. The plan was intended to allow a beginning to be made in planting this area in accordance with the designs of the Park Commission of 1901. The spacing and kind of trees to be used were discussed and the matter referred to Mr. Olmsted as a committee to confer with the Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds.

12. The Commission, at the request of the Barry Statue Commission, examined at the Lodge House in Potomac Park the final sketch model of the statue and pedestal for the Barry Monument, submitted by the sculptor, and also examined a large colored drawing showing the monument in place with the architectural setting proposed. Both model and drawing were approved, with the understanding that the sculptor may make such modifications as further study and work on the larger models may show desirable. Mr. French was requested informally to confer with the sculptor in regard to the changing of several details.

13. The Secretary presented a letter from the Chairman in regard to the request of Mr. Henry Bacon for information as to the spacing between the trees flanking the long canal proposed west of the Washington Monument. After discussion of the spacing shown on the original Park Commission plans, Mr. Olmsted was requested to write Mr. Bacon in regard to the matter. (See Exhibit D.)

approved. One of the objects of this plan is to make the proposed site for the Lincoln Memorial readily accessible to the public.

11. The Commission next considered a plan, submitted by the Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds, for planting parallel rows of trees in the monument grounds just east of 17th street, between the State, War, and Navy Department building and North B street. The plan was intended to allow a beginning to be made in planting this area in accordance with the designs of the Park Commission of 1801. The spacing and kind of trees to be used were discussed and the matter referred to Mr. Gimsted as a committee to confer with the Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds.

12. The Commission, at the request of the Barry Statue Commission, examined at the Lodge House in Potomac Park the final sketch model of the statue and pedestal for the Barry Monument, submitted by the sculptor, and also examined a large colored drawing showing the monument in place with the architectural setting proposed. Both model and drawing were approved, with the understanding that the sculptor may make such modifications as further study and work on the larger models may show desirable. Mr. French was requested informally to confer with the sculptor in regard to the changing of several details.

13. The Secretary presented a letter from the Chairman in regard to the request of Mr. Henry Bacon for information as to the spacing between the trees flanking the long canal proposed west of the Washington Monument. After discussion of the spacing shown on the original Park Commission plans, Mr. Gimsted was requested to write Mr. Bacon in regard to the matter. (See Exhibit D.)

14. Pursuant to the request of the Secretary of War, the Commission inspected eleven models exhibited on the 5th floor of the State, War, and Navy Department Building, which had been submitted in the competition for the erection by the United States of a monument at Fort Recovery, Ohio. After a careful examination of the models the Commission decided that model No. 7, by Schaaf, sculptor, and Johnson, architect, promises the best artistic results, and, from the point of view of fitness and artistic merit, it was placed first in the competition. Mr. Cottrell's doric shaft, model No. 6, carrying an urn supported on a tripod, was placed second, and the model, No. 5, submitted by Mr. Lukeman, was placed third. As, however, article 18 of the program of competition reads, in part, "Competing artists will please be advised that the interested people of Fort Recovery have indicated a desire that the monument shall be massive with a minimum of ornamentation, showing little or no sculptural work in the nature of figures.....", the Commission decided that, if this article is to govern in the award of the competition, model No. 6, but without the figure, submitted by Mr. Cottrell, should be placed first. Model No. 2, by the Van Amringe Granite Company, showing an Egyptian obelisk with a figure placed at the base should be placed second; the figure, however, was decided not necessary, and it was recommended that it be omitted. Model No. 11, by the Van Amringe Granite Company, showing an obelisk standing on a high base, should be placed third.

Mr. Cass Gilbert, when viewing the models, learned for the first time that the architect of design No. 7, was connected with his office. Mr. Gilbert at once notified the Commission that he would have nothing further to do with the judging of the models, and refused to take any action whatever in regard to the competition; he further protested against any action being taken in the matter which might involve criticism of himself or of the Commission in view of the fact that one

of the architects submitting a model was connected with his office, and directed that his action in the matter be made a matter of record in the report. (See Exhibit E.)

Telegrams from H. T. Scott, San Francisco, California, in behalf of Sally James Farnham, - from Commander Jess C. Clum, of the Fort Recovery, Ohio, G.A.R., stating their preference for a stone shaft, massive in design and with few embellishments, - and from the Chairman of the Fort Recovery Monument Committee, urging consideration of models along lines suggested in paragraph 18 of the program of competition, - also letters from W. E. Touvelle, M. C., - from J. Warren Keifer, former M. C., - and from Senator Burton, stating the desirability of a large and massive monument, - also letters from Mr. Reuter, Chairman, Fort Recovery Monument Committee, stating that the choice of citizens of Fort Recovery is Van Amringe and Company's model No. 2, - and from Major Oakes, in which he makes his recommendations as to the award, were presented to the Commission in connection with the above competition.

15. The Commission, at the request of the Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds, examined the discoloration of the Thomas Statue at 14th street and Massachusetts avenue, northwest, and advised that steps be taken to correct it.

The Commission then left the office and proceeded to the 5th floor of the State, War and Navy Department Building, where inspection was made of the models submitted in the competition for the monument at Fort Recovery Ohio. After a short interval for lunch, an inspection was made of the Decatur street terrace, and of the discoloration of the Thomas Statue in Thomas Circle. The Commission then visited the Lodge House in Potomac Park and inspected there the

1. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.

final sketch model of the Barry statue.

There being no further business before the meeting, the Commission adjourned to meet on Friday, December 15, 1911, at 10 A. M.

Approved:

H. B. Rummance

Chairman.

James C. Goff

Secretary.

November 5, 1921.

Lieutenant-General Nelson A. Miles, U. S. A.,

Washington, D. C.

General:

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held yesterday I presented your letter of October twelfth, and was directed by the Commission to inform you that they will take much pleasure in acceding to the request of the United States War Department for the erection of the Perry Memorial that the Commission of Fine Arts give advice and assistance in respect to the award of the competition for the Memorial. The Commission will act in accordance with the provisions of the excellent program of competition for the selection of an architect, copies of which have been sent to them.

In order that they may the better advise the Building Committee, as many as possible of the members of the Commission of Fine Arts will make a visit to the site of the proposed memorial before the date of the competition.

Very respectfully,

BRUCE C. COBBY

Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

80-430

9

1893

January 2nd 1893

My dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am sorry to hear that you are unable to visit the office at the present time, but I trust that you will be able to do so in the near future. In the meantime, I am sending you a copy of the report of the committee on the subject of the proposed amendment to the constitution, which you will find of interest. I am also sending you a copy of the report of the committee on the subject of the proposed amendment to the constitution, which you will find of interest. I am also sending you a copy of the report of the committee on the subject of the proposed amendment to the constitution, which you will find of interest.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. H. Smith

Very respectfully,

Yours truly,

John H. Smith

Secretary

1893

November 4, 1921.

Hon. Geo. H. Rutledge,
President, Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting held on November 24, gave consideration to the request in your letter of October fourteenth for advice from the Commission as to what should be the permissible height of buildings adjacent to the new Post Office building.

I was directed to inform you that the Commission think that buildings on the corners of Massachusetts Avenue and North Capitol Street should not extend higher than the new Post Office will. The high point of the Post Office roof will be 128.1 feet above datum at the intersection of above street, and the sidewalk being plus 40 feet, makes this highest point 88.1 above street. To this 88.1 feet add the 1.7 feet of fall of street toward the west and you have about 90 feet, which should be all right.

Very respectfully,

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary.

November 6, 1911.

My dear Mrs. Hoyt:

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, held on November 24, I explained your desire to give as a memorial to your husband a bubble fountain to be placed either in Lafayette or Farragut Park, and showed the members the photograph of the antique marble vase you proposed to use for the purpose.

The Commission asked me to tell you that they believe that a fountain, such as you suggest, will be most acceptable for Lafayette Square, but I regret to say that they do not consider the design of the vase shown in the photograph as good, and therefore cannot recommend its acceptance. They will, however, be very glad to approve a vase of appropriate design, and upon the design selected will depend the location of the fountain in the square.

I understand from your letter that the vase shown in the photograph has not been purchased by you, and I know that you are fully as anxious as the Commission that the memorial fountain shall be both artistic and suitable to the site and to the purpose it is to serve.

Most sincerely,

SPENCER COVET

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary.

Mrs. E. M. Hoyt,

Washington, D. C.

SC-ABC

1922

1922

It is further to be noted that the same year, 1922, was also the year in which the first of the series of the "The Great Gatsby" was published. This is a significant fact in the history of the book, as it shows that the book was published in a year of great literary achievement.

The book is a masterpiece of the American novel, and it is a book that has stood the test of time. It is a book that has been read by millions of people, and it is a book that has inspired many other writers. It is a book that is a true classic, and it is a book that is a true masterpiece.

The book is a masterpiece of the American novel, and it is a book that has stood the test of time. It is a book that has been read by millions of people, and it is a book that has inspired many other writers. It is a book that is a true classic, and it is a book that is a true masterpiece.

The book is a masterpiece of the American novel, and it is a book that has stood the test of time. It is a book that has been read by millions of people, and it is a book that has inspired many other writers. It is a book that is a true classic, and it is a book that is a true masterpiece.

The book is a masterpiece of the American novel, and it is a book that has stood the test of time. It is a book that has been read by millions of people, and it is a book that has inspired many other writers. It is a book that is a true classic, and it is a book that is a true masterpiece.

EXHIBIT



November 2, 1912.

Mr. Henry Bacon,
160 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Bacon:

Referring again to the matter discussed in my letter to you of October thirteenth, I find that the distance apart from trunk to trunk of the rows of trees on the opposite side of the canal between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial site, as shown on the Park Commission plans, is 345 feet, that is to say, 25 feet more than the distance between the rows of trees east of the Washington Monument. Also, the distance from tree to tree in the rows appears to be about 50 feet in the space of the rows west of the Monument garden.

Sincerely yours,

FREDERICK LAW OLDMAN.

WLO-120

1. The first step in the process of the investigation is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information about the situation and determining the scope of the investigation.

November 4, 1911.

The Honorable

The Secretary of War.

Sir:

Pursuant to your request for the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts in regard to the models submitted for the monument to be erected by the United States at Fort Recovery, Ohio, the Commission, at its meeting on November 2d, made a careful examination of the eleven models exhibited in the hall on the 5th floor of the State, War, and Navy Department building and directed me to submit the following report:

The published program of the competition, article eighteen, reads as follows: "Competing artists will please be advised that the interested people of Fort Recovery have indicated a desire that the monument shall be massive with a minimum of ornamentation, showing little or no sculptural work in the nature of figures,". If article eighteen is to be followed, and is to control the decision, there are three models presented in this competition that conform to the above instructions. These are the models presented by Mr. Cottrell and by the Van Loringe Granite Company, the latter company having submitted two different models.

If, however, an opinion is desired irrespective of article eighteen, the Commission is free to advise that model No. 7, by Schauf, sculptor, and Johnson, architect, promises the best artistic results. From the

point of view of fitness and artistic merit it should be placed first in the competition. Mr. Cottrell's doric shaft, model No. 6, carrying an urn supported on a tripod, should be placed second. The model submitted by Mr. Augustus Looman, No. 5, should be placed third.

If, however, article eighteen is to govern, model No. 6, submitted by Mr. Cottrell, but without the figure, should be placed first. Model No. 2, submitted by the Van Amringe Granite Company, showing an Egyptian obelisk with a figure placed at the base, should be placed second; the figure, however, is not necessary, and should be omitted. Model No. 11, submitted by the Van Amringe Granite Company, showing an obelisk standing on a high base, should be placed third.

In general it may be said that the Egyptian obelisk form has been frequently used from time immemorial nearly always in memory of fallen heroes, often on major sites, but more often in the cemeteries of Europe and America. This form is always the same and the employment of it is therefore devoid of originality and precludes individuality in a monument; it is a shape and nothing more; any ornamentation upon or near it detracts from its quality and artistic merit.

Mr. Cass Gilbert, one of the members of the Commission, when viewing the models learned for the first time that the architect of design No. 7 was connected with his office. He at once notified the Commission that he would have nothing further to do with the judging of the models, and refused to take any action whatever in regard to the competition. Mr. Gilbert further protested against any action being taken in the matter which might involve criticisms of himself or of the Commission in view of the fact that one of the architects submitting a model was connected with his office, and desired

that his action in the matter be made a matter of record in the report.
The recommendations in the above report were made by a majority of the
Commission of Fine Arts exclusive of Mr. Gilbert.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY,

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary.

11 photographs sent along with the above.

that his action in the matter be made a matter of record in this report.
The recommendations in the above report were made by a majority of the
Commission of this type exclusive of Mr. Gilbert.

By direction of the Commission

Very respectfully,

BENJAMIN COBB

Colonel, U. S. Army

Secretary

If photographs sent along with the above.